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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/606,942	06/27/2003	Yousuke Minoura	2018-739	4462

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EXAMINER

GIMIE, MAHMOUD

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3747

DATE MAILED: 07/27/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/606,942	Applicant(s) MINOURA ET AL.	
	Examiner Mahmoud Gimie	Art Unit 3747	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 June 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 June 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>07/23/2004</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: line 15, the word "continuously" seems inaccurate as the injector locking portion (52) does not appear to continuously surround the fuel injector locking portion. Line 20, the word "should" appears inaccurate as it casts doubt on the claimed function. It is suggested that an alternative word such as "will" or the like be used.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Satou (6,374,809).

Satou discloses a fuel supply unit for an engine including at least one cylinder, the fuel supply unit comprising: a fuel injector for injecting fuel into the cylinder, the fuel injector including a fuel inlet port (6) and a lockable injector portion (groove); fuel distribution pipe (D) for distributing fuel to the injector, the fuel distribution pipe including a fuel outlet port (16) communicated with the fuel inlet port (6) of the injector so that the fuel is supplied from the fuel distribution pipe to the fuel injector through the fuel outlet port and

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the fuel inlet port; and a detachment preventing means (20) for preventing the fuel injector from detaching from the distribution pipe, the detachment prevention means including an injector locking portion (22), which [substantially] continuously extends around the fuel injector within a circumferential length of the fuel injector, wherein the detachment preventing means (20) is locked in the fuel outlet port (16), and a circumferential middle portion of the of the fuel injector locking portion (22) locks the lockable injector portion (groove) of the fuel injector so that the fuel inlet port (6) should [will] not be detached from the fuel outlet port when the fuel injector is the shifted in a detaching direction thereof.

With regard to claim 2, wherein the lockable injector portion (groove) is formed in a circumferential surface of the fuel injector and projects in a radial direction thereof.

With regard to claim 3, wherein the injector locking portion fit on a circumferential surface of the fuel injector, so that a diametrical shift of the fuel injector is restricted.

With regard to claim 4, the detachment preventing means includes two distribution pipe locking portions (21), each of which extends from a corresponding one of side portions (21) of the injector locking portion (20) toward the fuel outlet port (16), and which are disposed so the injector is intervenient between the distribution pipe locking portions; and each of the distribution pipe locking portion is locked in a circumference of the fuel outlet port in a diametrical direction thereof, so that the distribution pipe locking portions are locked in the fuel outlet port.

With regard to claims 5-10, see above and figures 1-7 of Satou.

Conclusion


2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The cited references show fuel injector mounting means.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mahmoud Gimie whose telephone number is 703-305-1037. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday-Friday between 7 a.m. -3:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Henry Yuen can be reached on 703-308-1946. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MG


MAHMOUD GIMIE
PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER
ART UNIT 3747